

Method for Selective Encryption Within Documents

Abstract of the Invention

The present invention allows the user (author or creator) of a document to specify
5 that certain portions of a document be selected for encryption while other portions of the
document remain displayed as created. The user could employ a standard word
processing editor technique to highlight (or swipe) portions of a document that the user
desires to be encrypted. The highlighted portion would then be 'tagged' with a
surrounding attribute indicating to the word processor that this highlighted portion of the
10 document is to be encrypted. This process is similar to the existing word processor
capability to highlight areas on a document and then assign rich text attributes, such as
BOLD, ITALICS, etc., to those areas. With proper authorization, any encrypted portion
of a document would be displayed as part of the document. Without proper
authorization, the display of the document would only contain the unencrypted portions
15 of the document.